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THE MILITANT

A SOCIALIST NEWSWEEKLY PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF WORKING PEOPLE

VOL. 70/NO. 27 JULY 24, 2006

Socialist Workers candidates in Pennsylvania offer

Working-class alternative to all capitalist parties

They campaign for unionizing workers; immediate legalization of immigrants; troops out of Iraq, Afghanistan now!

Will challenge Pennsylvania 'loyalty oath'

BY JOHN STUDER

PHILADELPHIA, July 12—"We're campaigning to support workers' struggles to organize unions and mobilize union power to defend working people from attacks on our wages, working conditions, and rights by the employers and the government," said Osborne Hart, the Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor of Pennsylvania, in a press release sent out to media throughout the state today.

"We join with the millions of working people who have demanded immediate and unconditional legalization of all immigrants. By downing their tools and taking to the streets this spring in numbers never before seen in the United States, millions of workers engaged in what was in fact a multicity general political strike for the first time in U.S. history. This movement for legalization of immigrant workers has strengthened the working class, its allies, and the labor movement. It has changed politics in this country," Hart said.

"We also demand the immediate withdrawal of all U.S. and other 'coalition' troops from Iraq and Afghanistan," the socialist candidate continued. "We say: No to economic

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Militant/John Studer

Osborne Hart, Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor of Pennsylvania.

What socialists stand and fight for! List of SWP candidates
— pages 6, 7

Canadian gov't transforms military to fight 'war on terror'

BY JOHN STEELE

TORONTO—Fulfilling commitments made by the Conservative Party during last winter's federal election campaign to intensify the transformation of Canada's armed forces begun under the previous Liberal government, Ottawa made a series of announcements at the end of June about military spending to upgrade the mobility and combat effectiveness of its armed forces.

These steps are part of a package of measures taken by the new Conservative administration the last five months that have tied Ottawa's foreign policy closer to Washington's, increased military cooperation between the two states, and are remaking the Canadian ruling class into a more reliable ally of the U.S. rulers in the U.S.-led "war on terror."

Since taking office February 2, the government of Prime Minister Stephen Harper severed ties and cut funding to the Hamas-led Palestinian National Authority, the first government in the world to do so. Ottawa also classified the Tamil Tigers—a group fighting for independence for the Tamil people of Sri Lanka—as a "terrorist" organization, which the previous Liberal administration had refused to do. On his first trip abroad, Harper traveled to Afghanistan in March

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Washington, Tokyo push for sanctions against north Korea

BY SAM MANUEL

WASHINGTON—Washington and its imperialist allies, particularly Tokyo, are pushing a resolution in the United Nations Security Council to impose sanctions on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) for its recent testing of long-range ballistic missiles.

Several Japanese government officials have publicly said that Tokyo should consider a "pre-emptive" military strike against missile facilities in north Korea.

Christopher Hill, Washington's top diplomat to stalled six-party talks on the DPRK's development of nuclear technol-

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London sends more troops to Afghanistan

BY PAUL DAVIES

LONDON—The British government announced July 10 that it was deploying 900 more troops to Afghanistan as part of an intensified campaign against Taliban forces. The soldiers are being sent to the southern Helmand province, where fighting has escalated since elite paratroopers

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Court dismisses retaliatory suit by Utah coal boss against UMWA, 16 Co-Op miners, *Militant* — page 5

U.S. coal miner tours New Zealand

BY TERRY COGGAN AND ANNALUCIA VERMUNT

AUCKLAND, New Zealand—"Huntington is a small town in a rural area of Utah. When we were getting messages of support from as far away as New Zealand and Australia, it helped people there realize the importance of this struggle," said Alyson Kennedy at a July 2 meeting that kicked off her visit to New Zealand.

Kennedy took a leading part in the three-year battle to organize a local of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) at the Co-Op coal mine near Huntington. Her tour here was organized

Continued on page 4

Socialist Workers launch ballot drive in New York

BY ARRIN HAWKINS

NEW YORK, July 12—After two days on the streets, supporters of the Socialist Workers election campaign here have collected more than 1,600 signatures to put the SWP ticket on the ballot in the state. Their aim is to collect 30,000 signatures, double the state requirement, in a 13-day effort.

The socialists are running Róger Calero for U.S. Senate and Maura De-

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Militant/Arrin Hawkins

Róger Calero (left), SWP candidate for U.S. Senate in New York, campaigns July 11 in Bronx, New York. At right is campaign supporter Carmen Maymi-O'Reilly.

Women's rights supporters mobilize to defend Mississippi abortion clinic

BY DAVE FERGUSON

JACKSON, Mississippi, July 8—"We are hoping to make history this summer with the largest pro-choice assembly in Mississippi! The pro-choice voice in the state will no longer allow itself to be silenced," said Michelle Colon, president of the Jackson Area National Organization for Women (NOW).

Organizations in Mississippi that support a woman's right to choose abortion have joined together in the Mississippi Reproductive Freedom Project. Their aim, Colon said, is to organize to keep the Jackson Women's Health Organiza-

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Also Inside:

Mississippi clinic defense

Continued from front page

tion open and defeat the forces trying to shut it down.

Operation Save America, formerly Operation Rescue, which is campaigning to re-criminalize abortion, has announced a "siege" of the clinic, calling on its supporters to come here July 15–22.

Women's rights supporters are countermobilizing here at the same time, coming from Alabama, Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, and other states, Colon said.

Kim Gandy, national president of NOW, is scheduled to address a kickoff rally at Smith Park here July 15. Pro-choice groups will march on the state capitol July 22. In the intervening week, women's rights supporters are mobilizing daily to defend the clinic and related activities.

On its web site, Operation Save America exhorts people to join them "at the 'last abortion mill' in the state." In a video clip filmed outside the Jackson clinic, the group's director, Rev. Flip Benham, exclaims, "We are going to storm these gates of Hell, and we are going to pray that God pushes abortion in the state of Mississippi right into a grave. No more little children killed by abortion in Mississippi, and when that happens…the laws of our land will reflect the victory that was won in the streets."

Women's rights supporters here say they are organizing a series of public demonstrations to reflect the majority sentiment for a woman's right to choose abortion, which was decriminalized in the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court ruling. They are also doing training for clinic defense in case it is needed.

"Women patients have told me, 'There is nobody out there for me,'" said Colon. "We have to do something. We are not providing traditional clinic defense now, but that could change at any time."

Susan Hill, the owner of the clinic, has requested that there be no pro-choice assembly at the clinic site.

Betty Thompson, a former director of the clinic, attended a defense training session July 8. She said patients drive into an attached parking lot and proceed directly to the clinic from there, bypassing anti-abortion protesters who often congregate in front of the facility.

The Operation Save America attempt to close the clinic comes on the heels of an effort to ban abortions in Mississippi. Both Democratic and Republican politicians expressed support for a ban, but the bill died when the state legislature was unable to agree on the exact provisions.

The rightist forces here have attracted some African-Americans to their cause. "The new president of Pro-Life Mississippi, a Black woman, has joined some Black ministers in calling abortion geno-

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Miami: Protesters demand right to travel to Cuba



Militant/Bernie Senter

MIAMI—Some 85 people gathered outside the city hall in Hialeah, Florida, July 8 to protest increased U.S. government restrictions on Cuban-Americans' right to travel to Cuba and send remittances there. One of four such actions in recent weeks, it was organized by the Association of Christian Women in Defense of the Family. Protesters carried signs that read, "Respect the right of Cuban-Americans to travel," and a photo of a book banned by the Miami-Dade School Board for depicting children happily living in Cuba.

—BERNIE SENTER

Tel Aviv intensifies military attacks in Gaza

BY PAUL PEDERSON

The Israeli military has intensified "Operation Summer Rain," which it began June 28 with an armored invasion of Gaza. On July 6, Israeli forces moved deep into the northern area of the territory. During gun battles and intensified Israeli aerial bombing, 23 Palestinians and one Israeli soldier died that day, according to Agence-France Presse.

Israeli forces have also stepped up activities in the occupied West Bank, killing a 16-year-old during a military incursion into a Palestinian refugee camp near the northern city of Jenin.

Palestinian National Authority (PNA) prime minister Ismail Haniyeh, a leader of Hamas, called the Israeli offensive "a desperate effort to undermine the Palestinian government under the pretext of a search for a missing soldier," the Israeli daily *Haaretz* reported July 7.

Palestinian groups holding Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit, captured in a raid on an Israeli post near the border with Gaza June 25, have reportedly presented new terms for his release. The conditions, which the press attributed to the Palestinian newspaper *Al-Hayat al-Jadeeda,* call for the release of 100 female Palestinian prisoners and 30 who have served 20 years or more. Israel's Internal Security Minister said July 7 that Tel Aviv would not rule out a prisoner exchange.

There are more than 8,000 Palestinians in Israeli jails. According to a United Nations report, Israeli forces have arrested 155 more Palestinians between June 28 and July 4, "including nine PA [Palestinian Authority] ministers, 25 Palestinian Legislative Council members, two mayors, and the Mufti of Bethlehem." More than 50 Palestinians have been killed since the Israeli offensive began.

Tel Aviv claimed the expansion of the invasion in Gaza is aimed at creating a buffer zone to prevent armed Palestinian factions from firing rockets into areas of Israel bordering the Strip.

On July 4 and 5, dual-engine rockets fired from Gaza reached the Israeli city of Ashkelon. Israel's premier Ehud Olmert said the attack will have "consequences" and "Hamas will be the first to feel this." Tel Aviv has also stepped up its threats against the government of Syria, where the exile leadership of Hamas and other Palestinian groups have offices. On June 28, just after Israeli forces entered Gaza, Israeli jets flew close above Syrian president Bashar Assad's summer residence, while he was home, "to send a threatening message to the [sic] Assad and the Syrian regime," said a July 5 report by the Israel-based Center for Special Studies, a non-governmental organization linked to Israeli intelligence.

Washington has backed Tel Aviv throughout the assault.

As we go to press…

The Israeli Air Force has launched bombing raids deep into Lebanon after eight Israeli soldiers were killed and two were captured, allegedly by members of Hezbollah, a Lebanese group, in a cross-border clash, according to Al Jazeera News.

THE MILITANT

Defend women's right to choose abortion

Supporters of a woman's right to choose abortion are defending abortion clinics from rightist attacks. The clinic in Jackson, Mississippi—the only one in the state—is being targeted for protests July 15–22 by the anti-abortion group Operation Save America (formerly Operation Rescue). The 'Militant' is covering this fight. Don't miss a single issue!



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Canada's military changes

Continued from front page
to visit the 2,300 Canadian soldiers who are part of the NATO occupation force in that country. And at the end of June, Ottawa formalized military cooperation with Washington's Northern Command, to help defend "North America from future terrorist and natural disasters," said the July 3 issue of the U.S. *Armed Forces Information Service*.

Ottawa will spend US$15.3 billion to strengthen the military's transportation capacities, the government announced at the end of June. Projected purchases include 2,300 medium-sized trucks to carry troops and supplies both in Canada and abroad.

The funds will also be used to procure 16 medium lift helicopters, 17 planes to transport troops, and four equipment cargo planes. Three new joint support ships will be ready beginning in 2012. The cargo planes will be able to transport troops and equipment anywhere in the world, something Canada's military has not been capable of in recent years, Defense Minister Gordon O'Connor told the media.

The government's first budget in May increased military spending by $5.4 billion to $18.4 billion over the next five years, up from a low of $8.4 billion in 1998 under the previous Liberal administration.

Ottawa has already announced plans to increase the strength of the military by 23,000 regular and reserve troops. Currently troop strength is at 60,000 regular and 20,000 reserve troops. At the present time 2,300 are stationed in the Kandahar region of Afghanistan as part of the U.S.-led "war on terrorism." Another 400 military personnel are stationed abroad in 12 countries—including Haiti, Bahrain, Golan Heights, Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Congo, and Sudan.

The transformation of Canada's military also includes reliance on special forces such as the secret Joint Task Force Two (JTF2), comprised of about 350 volunteers from the three branches of the military. The JTF2, established in 1993, has been operating in Afghanistan, and, according to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, was "almost certainly" deployed in Quebec City in 2001 as backup during the massive "anti-globalization" protests at the hemispheric trade talks.

The military operation in Afghanistan, begun by the Liberal government, is Canada's biggest and bloodiest combat operation since the 1950–53 Korean War.



Canadian Department of National Defence/Roxanne Dunn

On his first trip abroad since taking office February 2, Canada's prime minister, Stephen Harper, addresses some of Canada's 2,300 troops in Afghanistan March 13.

Canadian officers command the Multi National Brigade for Command South, part of the 9,700-strong NATO force projected to grow to 17,000 in southern Afghanistan.

The combat role of the Canadian military, including the taking of casualties, is central to its transformation into a battle-hardened flexible, mobile, fighting machine. Since Canada's military mission in Afghanistan began soon after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon in the United States, 17 Canadian soldiers and one Canadian diplomat have been killed abroad. More than 60 have been injured. In May, on the initiative of the Harper government, Parliament voted to extend Ottawa's military intervention in Afghanistan by two years to February 2009.

At the same time that the announcements on new military spending were being made, cooperation between the United States Army Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) and the Canadian military's Canada Command was formalized with the June 28–29 visit of Lt.-Gen. Marc Dumais, the commander of Canada Command, to the USNORTHCOM headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

USNORTHCOM, which for the first time established a domestic military command structure in the United States, was set up four years ago. The Canada Command, initiated by the Liberal government, went into operation February 1 under the Conservative government with a similar mandate within Canada. "While we have responsibilities toward our own respective governments, there is a very strong need to work collaboratively, to be in a position to assist one another," General Dumais said.

On May 12, the U.S. and Canadian governments agreed to renew their accord on the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and expand its role to include "maritime defense of the continent, involving offshore approaches and inland waterways," as the May 22 issue of the U.S. *Defense News* reported. NORAD was formed in 1958 to monitor and organize operations over North American airspace.

At the conclusion of Harper's July 5–6 visit to Washington for talks with the U.S. president, George Bush thanked Ottawa for its combat role in Afghanistan and closer ties with Washington, saying, "It just goes to show the important role Canada can play in foreign policy."

'Renditions' used widely in U.S.-led 'war on terror'

BY SAM MANUEL

WASHINGTON—The story of Laid Saidi is the latest refutation of the U.S. government's claim that it does not transfer prisoners accused of "terrorism" to other countries for interrogation where they are often tortured, a practice called "extraordinary rendition." In an interview in the July 7 *New York Times,* Saidi described his experience with Washington's system of secret kidnappings and detention.

Evidence has also come out that a number of European governments have been complicit in abductions in their countries of mostly Arab men, at least one of whom is a German citizen, and their transfer to countries where they were tortured.

Saidi, an Algerian, said he was expelled from Tanzania in May 2003. He directed a branch of the Al Haramain Islamic Foundation based in Saudi Arabia. Washington has charged that the Al Haramain charity, now dissolved, was involved in financing "terrorism," including the 1998 bombing of the U.S. embassies in Tanzania and Kenya.

Saidi was handed over to U.S. agents and flown to Afghanistan. He said that during his 16 months of captivity in several secret prisons there he was blindfolded and photographed after being stripped of his clothes. During interrogations he was chained to a ceiling and suspended by his arms, his feet attached to the floor. "They beat me and threw cold water on me, spat at me and sometimes gave me dirty water to drink," he said. On one occasion he was chained for five days without food or clothing.

The apparent basis for his arrest was a tape of a phone conversation that his captors claimed was about planes. It was instead about tires. Saidi said that in late August 2004 he was flown to Algeria and released, without ever being charged or told why he had been imprisoned.

In a letter published in the July 5 *Wall Street Journal*, John Bellinger, a legal adviser to the U.S. State Department, defended the so-called renditions as "legal" and "vital."

Following a meeting with Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak in Cairo, U.S. attorney general Alberto Gonzales defended the secret kidnappings and detentions, adding that Washington had an obligation only to seek assurances against torture from governments to which prisoners were being turned over.

Meanwhile, tensions over foreign policy between Washington and its imperialist rivals have revealed more facts about the role of European governments in the "antiterror rendition program."

On July 5 the Italian government arrested two officials of its intelligence service, one of them the director of a division of military intelligence, for aiding the CIA in a kidnapping. An Italian judge issued warrants for four U.S. citizens, three of them alleged CIA agents, reported the Reuters news agency. Earlier, an Italian court issued arrest warrants for 22 suspected U.S. agents. The arrests and warrants are in connection with the rendition of an Egyptian cleric, Hassan Mustafa Osama Nasr, who says he was abducted in Italy and sent to Egypt, where he was imprisoned and tortured.

A report adopted July 7 by the European Parliament charges that the CIA was directly responsible in some cases in the "illegal seizure, removal, abduction, and detention of terrorist suspects" in Europe. The report cited the governments of Italy, Germany, Sweden, and Bosnia as having participated in or sanctioned renditions.

Many European governments have allowed the CIA to transport prisoners through their airspace. In the United Kingdom, Home Office minister for security Anthony McNulty said neither the police, special branch, or immigration services kept details of CIA flights through Britain. More that 200 CIA flights have passed through since Sept. 11, 2001, according to official flight records, the *Guardian* newspaper reported.

MILITANT LABOR FORUMS

IOWA

Des Moines

U.S. Hands Off North Korea! Speaker: Kevin Dwire, Socialist Workers Party. Fri., July 21. Dinner, 6:30 p.m.; program, 7:30 p.m. *3707 Douglas Ave. Tel.: (515) 255-1707.*

FLORIDA

Miami

How to Defeat Right-Wing Attacks on Abortion Clinics. Speaker: Ruth Robinett, Socialist Workers candidate for House of Representatives District 109; Holly Anagnos, abortion rights activist. Fri., July 21. Dinner, 6:30 p.m.; program, 7:30 p.m. *8365 NE 2nd Ave. room 206. Tel.: (305) 756-4436.*

NEW YORK

Manhattan

It's Not Who You're Against, It's What You're For! Speakers: Panel of Socialist Workers candidates. Sat., July 22. Dinner, 7:00 p.m.; program 8:00 p.m. Donation: $5 dinner; $5 program. *307 W. 36th St. 10th Fl. (near 8th Ave; take north set of elevators). Tel: (212) 629-6649.*

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia

Hear the Socialist Workers Party Candidates in Pennsylvania! Osborne Hart for governor, John Staggs for State House District 198, others. Sun., July 23. Reception, 4:00 p.m.; program 5:00 p.m. *188 W. Wyoming Ave. Tel: (215) 455-2686.*

WASHINGTON

Seattle

U.S. Hands Off Iran! Unfolding Politics in Iran. Speaker: Ma'mud Shirvani, Farsi editor for Pathfinder Press. Sun., July 30. Dinner, 2:00 p.m.; program, 3:00 p.m. Donation: $5 dinner; $5 program. *5418 Rainer Ave. S. Tel.: (206) 323-1755.*

NEW ZEALAND

Auckland

Showing of *Stealing a Nation*, a film by John Pilger about the forced removal of the population of Diego Garcia when the island was turned into a U.S. military base. Fri., July 21, 7:00 p.m. Donation: $3. *7 Mason Ave., Otahuhu (upstairs, above laundromat). Tel.: (09) 276-8885.*

Christchurch

What is Imperialism? Oppose the March Towards Fascism and War Led by the Imperialist Rulers Today. Fri., July 21, 7:00 p.m. Donation: $3. *287 Selwyn St., Spreydon. Tel.: 930-3373.*

Corrections

The article in last week's issue, "Lone survivor of Sago disaster: 'We expected to be rescued,'" incorrectly said that seismographic equipment had been used to locate miners trapped underground after the 2002 Quecreek mine explosion in Somerset, Pennsylvania. According to the June 29, 2006, *Charleston Gazette,* the equipment was used to determine whether the miners were alive, not to pinpoint their location.

In the same issue, the article "'Canada Day Is Humiliation Day' say Chinese-Canadian protesters and supporters" misspelled the name of a protest organizer. The correct spelling is Sid Tan.

Australia: 300,000 protest new federal antilabor law


Militant/Bob Aiken
Some 40,000 rallied June 28 in Blacktown, western Sydney, to protest federal antiunion laws that took effect in March.

BY BOB AIKEN

SYDNEY, Australia—In a sea of union flags and banners, 40,000 workers joined a June 28 protest in Blacktown, western Sydney, to protest anti-union laws that took effect at the end of March. Busloads of workers from a wide range of unions here stopped work to take part.

The Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU) said 300,000 joined rallies and marches nationwide that day. Police put the numbers at 150,000. The largest rally—in Melbourne—drew 150,000 according to ACTU and 80,000 according to the cops.

In the lead-up to the protests, Australia Post, the post office, threatened to take action against any employee who stopped work to take part. Despite the threat, "hundred and hundreds" of Australia Post employees went to the protest in Melbourne alone, Len Cooper, the Communication, Electrical and Plumbing Union's Victorian branch secretary, told the Melbourne *Age.* "It's the biggest turnout yet."

The large actions came as bosses are beginning to use the new laws—dubbed "Workchoices" by the federal government, headed by Prime Minister John Howard—to attack wages and job conditions previously protected by federal law.

Spotlight, for example, a chain of 100 fabric and homeware stores employing about 6,000 people nationally, is axing benefits such as premium pay for overtime and weekend work for new full-time employees worth up to $90 a week, in exchange for a two-cent-an-hour pay hike.

In a widely publicized case in April, soon after the laws took effect, bosses at the Cowra Abattoir in western New South Wales moved to sack 29 meat workers and rehire 20 with slashed wages. While Howard and Workplace Relations Minister Kevin Andrews pressured the company to back off, the Office of Workplace Services later found that the company action was lawful because the bosses made the wage cuts for "operational reasons."

Miner in Australia fights firing after refusal to sign individual contract

BY LINDA HARRIS AND RON POULSEN

SYDNEY, Australia—"We need everyone to stand their ground," said Lorissa Stevens, 21, a coal miner here who was fired June 9 for refusing to sign an Australian Workplace Agreement (AWA), a nonunion individual contract. She was referring to the resistance to bosses' attacks under new government laws that allow the slashing of wages and job conditions, including by such contracts. Her union-backed fight against dismissal has gained nationwide attention.

Stevens was employed as a casual plant operator by Mining and Earthmoving Services (MES) at an open-cut (surface) mine in the Hunter Valley, 150 miles north of Sydney. She had just completed a two-week training course when the boss of the contract company handed her an AWA, saying she had to sign.

Stevens traveled to Sydney July 9 to meet Alyson Kennedy, a visiting U.S. coal miner who was one of the leaders of a three-year union-organizing battle at the Co-Op mine in Utah.

In an interview, Stevens said she had received her union card the day she was fired and called the union after being pressured to sign the AWA. Stevens told the bosses she "was in the union and had nothing to say to them about the AWA." The MES human resources manager threatened to "make sure I would never work in a Hunter Valley mine again," she recounted.

Two of the worst provisions in the AWA were having to pay a A$200 fine (US$150) and losing a day's wages for failure to give 12 hours' notice for any absence for illness, and being billed for costs of the company induction (training) program.

Another worker given an AWA at the same time also refused to sign. The bosses didn't try to sack him after Stevens had publicly resisted her dismissal.

Stevens said she thought the company had picked on her because of her youth. "Maybe they thought I wouldn't read it," she said. "It's not because I'm a woman," she insisted. About 30 women work in the mine. The company wants to employ more female workers because "women are better operators," she stated.

Stevens said she comes from a family with a tradition in mining and in the union. Most miners where she worked are union members. She had been training for five years to get in the mines and had gained all possible certificates for driving open-cut mining machinery.

With the backing of the mining division of the Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU), and the support of family and friends, Stevens is taking her case to the federal court. "We want to nail the company," she said.

Stevens was welcomed with a standing ovation at a New South Wales Teachers' Federation stop-work meeting in Sydney July 4, where she spoke about her case.

She explained that the MES individual contract forced on her had been freshly written under new industrial relations laws. These antiunion laws, in effect since March, are being used to attack wages and working conditions previously protected by federal law. Between April and June more than 40,000 workers were forced or induced to sign individual contracts. About 5 percent of the workforce is now on AWAs.

In Perth, Western Australia, 107 construction workers, members of the CFMEU, have each been fined almost A$30,000 (US$22,550) over their defiance of a strike ban imposed by the bosses' courts. The workers struck for 12 days in March after their shop steward, Peter Ballard, was sacked over an ongoing industrial dispute.

New Zealand: U.S. coal miner speaks on union fight

Continued from front page

by supporters of the Militant Fighting Fund to celebrate the recent settlement ending a harassment lawsuit filed in 2004 by Co-Op's owner, C.W. Mining Co. The targets of that defamation suit included the Co-Op miners who had waged a successful 10-month strike, the UMWA, other supporters of the union-organizing fight, and the *Militant.*

At the public event here, nearly 30 people heard Kennedy describe the accomplishments of the coal miners' fight. She also explained the importance to the labor movement of the actions across the United States in recent months that have involved millions of working people in the fight to win legal status for immigrants without papers.

On behalf of the supporters of the Militant Fighting Fund, chairperson Felicity Coggan introduced several other speakers. The first was Russell Mayn, secretary-treasurer of Local 13 of the Maritime Union of New Zealand, which organizes dockworkers and seafarers.

"Unionists and the ideals they stand for know no boundaries," Mayn said. He explained that the union had applied its principle of "Touch One, Touch All" to the case.

Other speakers were Barry Wilson, president of the Auckland Council for Civil Liberties, and Jill Ovens, a senior organizer for the Service and Food Workers Union (SFWU). "I have to support the *Militant* in this case—people must have the ability to speak out," Ovens said.

SFWU organizer Nicki Jonas read a message of solidarity from Susan Bradford, a Green Party Member of Parliament and endorser of the Militant Fighting Fund. Sneh Kumar, a National Distribution Union (NDU) member who works at an Auckland garment factory, read a support message from NDU national secretary Laila Harré. A lively discussion and social followed Kennedy's remarks.


Militant/Terry Coggan
Sneh Kumar, sewing machine operator and member of National Distribution Union, reads union message at July 2 meeting in Auckland, New Zealand, featuring U.S. coal miner Alyson Kennedy. To Kumar's left is Kennedy, Barry Wilson, and Russell Mayn.

In the following days, Kennedy took up several invitations to meet unionists and others. At the monthly meeting of the Maritime Union's executive board, she thanked the union for its moral and financial support to the struggle. She also visited other union offices and the union-backed Working Women's Resource Centre.

During a union-organized tour of the surface coal mine at Rotowaro near Huntly, about one hour's drive south of Auckland, Kennedy heard about the successful strike battle waged by coal miners last year for a national contract.

Kennedy also met 15 meatpacking workers at an informal lunchtime get-together in a carpark at the Auckland Meat Processors site.

A July 5 public meeting in Christchurch, held in the local Trade Union Centre, involved unionists and supporters of workers' rights. Among those in attendance were an organizer of the Shearers Union and an official of the New Zealand Meat Workers Union who works at a meatpacking plant near Christchurch.

"Miners worldwide face the same problems, and it is important to recognize we have common interests among all trade unionists," said Harold Gibbens, who spoke on the panel with Kennedy. Gibbens is the convener of the Energy and Mining Industry Council of the Engineering, Printing and Manufacturing Union. He works as a continuous miner operator at the Spring Creek underground coal mine on the West Coast of the South Island.

"The union is important," Gibbens said. "On nonunion sites we see declining wages for miners, longer hours, and the company controlling the health and safety of miners, which leads to more workplace injuries and deaths."

After the meeting, Gibbens told the *Militant* that miners "won't work if we think it is unsafe." He said that "when there was a roof fall 20 meters [66 feet] into the mine at Spring Creek on April 10, initially the company wanted us to go on the other side of the fall and continue to extract coal while the fall was being cleared. We made our stance clear that we were willing to work on cleaning up the fall, but we would not resume coal extraction until it was safe to do so. After a standoff for a couple of days, they accepted our position."

Court dismisses Utah coal boss lawsuit

BY PAUL MAILHOT

Federal Judge Dee Benson in Salt Lake City issued a court order July 6 dismissing "with prejudice and on the merits" a harassment lawsuit by C.W. Mining Co. against the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA), 16 former Co-Op miners, and the *Militant* newspaper.

Because the judge dismissed the case with prejudice, the company, which owns the Co-Op coal mine near Huntington, Utah, cannot refile the lawsuit.

The coal company and its allied International Association of United Workers Union (IAUWU) originally filed the suit in September 2004. The company claimed that the miners fighting for UMWA representation, the union itself and several of its officers, and many supporters of the miners' struggle for a union were guilty of defamation and other charges. The *Militant* was a prominent defendant in the case because of its consistent coverage of the workers' struggle to organize a union at Co-Op.

The dismissal followed a settlement agreement reached in May between C.W. Mining and the IAUWU, on one hand, and the UMWA, the 16 individual miners, the *Militant*, and Utah Jobs with Justice on the other.

As part of that settlement, C.W. Mining agreed to drop what was left of its lawsuit and pay back wages to several miners fired for union activity at the Co-Op mine.

Judge Benson issued the one-page July 6 court order based on a joint motion to dismiss the case filed by attorneys representing both sides in the dispute.

The judge's ruling states that each side in the case must assume attorneys' costs incurred during the 22-month-long legal battle.

Judge Benson had earlier dismissed on May 1 most of the C.W. Mining lawsuit—including all the charges against the 16 miners—leaving only a weak defamation case against the UMWA, the *Militant*, and Utah Jobs with Justice.

At a June 4 event at the UMWA hall in Price, Utah, to celebrate the victory for the labor movement that the settlement of the suit represented, Alyson Kennedy, one of the leaders of the union fight at Co-Op, explained how damaging the May 1 ruling was to the coal company. That decision, Kennedy said, "affirmed that workers have the right to express opinions about working conditions, including safety, and about our struggle to be represented by the union of our choice, without being sued by the bosses." Just a few weeks after the May 1 ruling C.W. Mining agreed to settle the case. (See "How Co-Op miners stood up, defeated bosses' retaliatory suit" in July 3 *Militant.)*

As this issue goes to press, Kennedy is returning from a speaking tour in Australia and New Zealand, where she discussed the accomplishments of these miners in their nearly three-year-long union-organizing struggle.

The visit in both countries was hosted by supporters of the Militant Fighting Fund, which helped raise money for the *Militant* to defend itself and publicized the fight of all the defendants (see front-page article on the New Zealand leg of the tour).

Protesters in Pittsburgh condemn FBI raid of mosque



PITTSBURGH—At a July 7 news conference here, Luqman Abdus-Salaam (at podium), spokesperson for the Light of the Age mosque, protested a June 30 FBI raid of the mosque. Heavily armed FBI and city SWAT teams conducted the assault, kicking in doors, ransacking closets, and leaving holes in the mosque's walls. Congregation members denounced the raid as "unjust, unethical, and unnecessary." Federal agents claimed they undertook this operation in order to arrest mosque member Larry Williams, who they said was wanted on weapons charges in Utah. "We're concerned with the kind of terrorist label that is being attached to Muslims," stated Yusef Ali, president of the Islamic Council of Greater Pittsburgh, "and that more Muslims will be profiled."

—TONY LANE

Mississippi abortion clinic defense

Continued from page 2

cide against Blacks," said Colon, who is African-American herself. Supporters of Operation Save America, she said, are not concerned about the disproportionate number of Blacks on death row in Mississippi, or the higher number of African-American and other mostly working-class women who would die from botched abortions if the medical procedure becomes completely inaccessible in the state.

Seventy-two percent of women who get abortions in Mississippi are Black.

"We denounce the biased message and presence of Operation Oppress America," Colon told the Militant, using a term she coined for the rightist group attempting to shut down the clinic here. "We will not allow them to intimidate us, our clinic, or most importantly, the courageous patients. I hope pro-choice activists will join us this summer for Reproductive Freedom Summer in Jackson, Mississippi!"

Pathfinder books popular at Tehran book fair

BY TONY HUNT

TEHRAN—"I am glad you keep coming to Iran and bringing these books," said a student visiting the stand for Pathfinder Books–London during the Tehran International Book Fair. The May 3–13 fair drew hundreds of thousands, including many young people who came in buses from all over Iran.

Pathfinder, present at the book fair for the 14th year, was exhibiting its range of revolutionary literature in one of three halls for overseas publishers. One of these halls carried books sold to university students and academics at government-subsidized discounts of 60 percent to make them affordable. Another hall carried books at prices subsidized by the exhibitors, in Pathfinder's case at around 50 percent of the cover price. There was also a hall for Arabic publishers. Book fair officials reported that 950 international publishers from 66 countries sold books this year.

In addition, visitors jammed the halls carrying books by more than 1,800 publishers in Farsi—the official language in Iran.

More than 200 books and pamphlets published or distributed by Pathfinder were sold at the fair. This included all 15 copies at the booth of issue No. 12 of *New International*—a magazine of Marxist politics and theory—with the lead article, "Capitalism's Long Hot Winter Has Begun." One person who purchased this title was a politics student at a local university, who asked for material on the 2003 war against Iraq. Like a few others who visited the Pathfinder stand, he wanted to know: "Will the U.S. invade Iran?"

Other issues of *New International* magazine also sold well, as did books on the Cuban Revolution, women's rights, and the speeches of Malcolm X. Also in demand were various titles on Marxism by authors such as Karl Marx, Frederick Engels, Evelyn Reed, George Novack, and leaders of the Russian Revolution Vladimir Lenin and Leon Trotsky.

Three young men came looking specifically for books by Jack Barnes and Mary-Alice Waters—authors of several Pathfinder titles—apparently having read some of their writings in translation. Over the last decade more than 20 Pathfinder titles have been published in Farsi.

Iranian publishers this year announced plans to translate and publish *Woman's Evolution* by Evelyn Reed; the articles "Their Transformation and Ours" and "Capitalism's Long Hot Winter Has Begun" by Jack Barnes, both published in *New International* No. 12; and *Art and Revolution* by Leon Trotsky.

25, 50, AND 75 YEARS AGO

25 CENTS
THE MILITANT
A SOCIALIST NEWSWEEKLY/PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

July 24, 1981

Youth rebellions have swept through more than thirty cities and towns in Britain.

Staggering levels of unemployment, widespread poverty, rotten housing, police brutality, and racial discrimination is what these young people face, day in and day out.

The first rebellion flared in the Southall area of London on July 4. Pakistani, Indian and other Asian youth poured out to protest an organized assault on their community the night before by several hundred fascist youth. As police stood by, the fascists proceeded to assault people and attack Asian shops and shopkeepers.

The rebellion quickly spread to other areas of Britain.

An indication of the enormous pressure on [Prime Minister Margaret] Thatcher was the July 12 announcement that her government would propose a special youth employment plan among other measures in response to the rebellions.

THE MILITANT
PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE
NEW YORK, N.Y. FIVE (5) CENTS

July 23, 1956

JULY 18—Reports continue to come out of Eastern Europe describing a smoldering discontent among the industrial workers such as preceded the Poznan general strike, June 28. The efforts of the Kremlin-backed governments to head off recurrences of the Poznan uprising continue to combine two methods: (1) Concessions, admissions and promises; (2) repressions, frame-up and threats.

In Warsaw yesterday it was announced that 323 of the many hundreds more arrested in the June 28 events and its aftermath are still under investigation. Prosecutor General Marian Rybicki asserted that of these 64 persons are included who used the disturbances for "robbery" and "looting." He added that a distinction was being made between "workers influenced by dissatisfaction caused by nonfulfillment of their rather justified demands," and "reckless criminal and provocateur elements inspired by sources alien to Poland."



July 25, 1931

Behind the thick smoke of pacifist assurances and "disarmament" conferences, the imperialist world today presents a picture of a more thoroughly armed camp than the days preceding the world war of 1914.

The United States piously demands the reduction of armaments in Europe, fortified by the certainty that under any conditions its industrial and financial superiority will give it the edge in a military conflict.

France has just announced that it has "reduced" its armaments as far as it intends to.

With the world crisis gaining in fury, capitalism is driven to the wall hunted down by its own inherent contradictions. The big powers are straining forward for a re-division of the world market and of world political power. They know that this re-division can be accomplished only through war. They are preparing it, assisted—as in 1914—by their "socialist" footmen.

1956 Hungarian revolution sought to strengthen gains of workers state



Getty Images/Jack Esten

Crowd gathers around captured Soviet tank Nov. 12, 1956, during Hungarian revolution.

BY ARRIN HAWKINS

When U.S. president George Bush visited Hungary in late June, he referred to the 50th anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian workers revolt as part of his propaganda to draw in the former Soviet-bloc government as a closer ally of Washington's "war on terror."

"I am here to celebrate the 1956 revolution," he said in a meeting with Hungarian leaders. Bush claimed that the popular uprising against the Stalinist bureaucratic regime in Hungary was a revolt against "communist dictatorship." He lauded the government in Budapest today for deploying troops as part of imperialist-led occupations in Afghanistan and Iraq. The Hungarian officials pledged commitment to this alliance with Washington.

Bush's remarks about the 1956 events were a falsification of history, however. The millions who rebelled in Hungary were not seeking to restore capitalism, with which they had had bitter experience, especially under fascist rule. They were fighting against bureaucratic abuses, for democratic rights, and to increase their control over the country's affairs.

A working-class political revolution was the last thing the imperialist rulers wanted. Unable to reimpose capitalism there, they counted on Moscow to crush the Hungarian revolution.

Sought to strengthen historic gains

Working people in Hungary were building on the gains of the Russian Revolution and its extension. In October 1917 workers and farmers in Russia, led by the Bolshevik party, took power and overturned capitalist rule. Under socialized means of production and a planned economy, Russia, previously one of the most backward countries in Europe, rapidly industrialized. Working people made giant social strides.

In the early 1920s, however, under the pressures of imperialist assault and isolation, a privileged bureaucracy developed in the Soviet Union. Following V.I. Lenin's death, this rising middle-class caste headed by Joseph Stalin usurped political control, defeating communist working-class opposition. The Stalinist leadership reversed the Bolsheviks' working-class internationalist course and imposed police-state repression, bureaucratic mismanagement, and subordination of foreign policy to Moscow's narrow priorities. It could not, however, overturn the socialized property relations.

After World War II, in face of renewed imperialist aggression, Moscow organized the overthrow of the tottering capitalist regimes in East Europe as a defensive "buffer zone." Working people in those countries mobilized, under Stalinist constraints, to expropriate the capitalists and landlords. Bureaucratically deformed workers states were established, including in Hungary.

Too weak to launch a hot war, the imperialist powers waged a "cold war" against the workers states. They put military and economic pressure on the bureaucratic regimes to crack down on the struggles of working people.

In the early 1950s, working-class demands for better living conditions and relaxation of the totalitarian regime forced the Nikita Khrushchev leadership in Moscow to make concessions, known as "de-Stalinization." Emboldened, workers in the region pressed for more. A working-class revolt erupted in East Germany in 1953. In June 1956 a general strike in the Polish city of Poznan led to a nationwide uprising. The hated Kremlin-backed leader was replaced by Wladislaw Gomulka, who instituted a few democratic concessions and called for some independence from Moscow.

Inspired by the Polish revolution, Hungarian workers and students, including many Communist Party members, began to stage meetings demanding democratic rights and the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Hungary. Under mounting pressure, Matyas Rakosi, known as the "Stalin of Hungary," was forced to resign his post in July.

Mass uprising, workers councils

Working people created their own organizations, including workers councils in the factories, neighborhoods, and army. They fought for better living conditions and wages and an increased say in the trade unions. They demanded legal recognition of the workers councils as permanent political bodies with authority in the management of the factories.

On October 23, hundreds of thousands poured into the streets. They defended themselves from police-state repression. A crowd tore down the notorious statue of Stalin in the capital. In response, the Hungarian CP leadership appointed Imre Nagy prime minister, who favored reforms and formerly held this post.

The Soviet regime, falsely claiming that the revolt was an imperialist-inspired "counter-revolution," responded by sending troops into Budapest. In response, the masses took up arms in self-defense, spearheading an uprising. Workers launched a general strike. Large sections of the Hungarian army went over to the revolution. Some Soviet soldiers began to express sympathy with the rebels' cause.

Nagy abolished the hated Secret Security Police. He called for the withdrawal of Soviet troops. The troops were redeployed to the provinces.

In its Nov. 5, 1956, issue, the *Militant* quoted an on-the-scene news report that described "a parade of workers' delegates from the provinces…each presenting its set of demands of the new Budapest government." It reported that "revolutionary councils in control of several large provincial towns" were "busy clapping into jail local officials of the Hungarian Workers (Communist) party and of the security police."

An October 25 wire dispatch reported that a rebel radio station demanded "that the top positions of the state and the Communist Party be filled with men devoted to the principle of proletarian internationalism and respectful of Hungarian traditions."

On November 4, Moscow sent back troops and tanks into Budapest. Nagy, who had promised "free elections" and repudiated the Warsaw Pact, was arrested. The Soviet-led forces unleashed a bloodbath. Thousands were killed, wounded, or jailed. Working people put up heroic resistance despite being overwhelmed by a vastly superior military force. They continued the general strike, issued leaflets, and protested the arrests. Resistance by the workers councils was crushed within two months.

Contrary to the cynical lies peddled both by imperialist and Stalinist representatives, the Hungarian workers and students did not want to go back to the capitalist past. They fought to strengthen their workers state and historic gains. The 1956 Hungarian revolution showed that the future lies with socialism.

The following is the Socialist Workers Party campaign platform for the mid-term elections in November 2006. For a list of the party's candidates across the United States, see page 7.

It's Not Who You're Against, It's What You're For! Support Socialist Workers Campaigns; Vote SWP in 2006

What SWP stands and fights for

Support workers' struggles to organize trade unions and to use and extend union power to defend themselves and other working people from the bosses' assaults. Unionize all workers—U.S.- and foreign-born. Fight for legislation to legalize all immigrants now. Workers need a union to enforce safety. Defend the labor movement from the continuing offensive by the employers and their twin parties of capitalism—the Democrats and Republicans. Build a labor party, based on the unions, that fights in the interests of working people.

For the immediate, unconditional withdrawal of U.S. and all "coalition" troops from Iraq and Afghanistan. No to economic sanctions and military threats against Iran! End Washington's cold war against Cuba! Hands off Venezuela! Eliminate all tariffs on products coming into the United States. Cancel the foreign debt of semicolonial countries. Oppose the drive by Washington and its allies to prevent the nations oppressed by imperialism from developing nuclear power and other sources of energy needed to bring much of humanity out of darkness.

- Amnesty! Immediate and unconditional permanent residency for all the undocumented! Stop workplace raids and deportations! Repeal federal and state laws mandating immigration-document checks by employers.
- For a massive federally funded public works program to put millions to work at union scale. For unemployment benefits at union rate of pay for the duration of joblessness.
- For government-funded, affordable credit for working farmers and price supports to cover production costs. Stop farm foreclosures!
- No cuts in present or future Social Security benefits, Medicaid programs, or workers compensation.
- Socialize health care to provide universal government guaranteed, lifetime medical coverage for everyone in this country.
- Nationalize the energy industry! Affordable power for working people.
- Fight cop brutality. Abolish the death penalty.
- Defend and extend affirmative action in employment, education, and housing.
- Defend a woman's right to choose! Oppose all restrictions on access to abortion.
- Repeal all laws restricting the civil rights of gays and lesbians.
- Oppose government spying. No to the bipartisan attacks on workers' rights.
- For independence for Puerto Rico! End U.S. colonial rule! Free all Puerto Rican political prisoners.

The Socialist Workers Party candidates present a working-class alternative to the Democrats, Republicans, and other capitalist parties.

Working people face an unrelenting offensive by the employers, who—driven by the need to reverse the decline in their profit rates—are intensifying speedup, closing plants, slashing jobs, lengthening work hours, eroding job safety, cutting pensions and health-care coverage, and seeking to undermine Social Security and break down working-class solidarity. The imperialist wars abroad and threats against Iran, Syria, and north Korea are an extension of the assaults on the living and job conditions of workers and farmers at home.

The resistance today by working people to these assaults points to the road forward: to rely on our collective power and solidarity and organize independently of the capitalists and their parties to advance the common interests of workers and farmers worldwide. We need to build a revolutionary movement that will lead a fight by working people and their allies to take power out of the hands of the billionaire class, establish a workers and farmers government, and join the worldwide struggle for socialism.

Support the Socialist Workers campaign! Help us petition to get on the ballot. Invite candidates to speak. Contribute to the campaign.

Pennsylvania SWP campaign

Continued from front page

sanctions and military threats against Iran and north Korea! End Washington's Cold War on Cuba! U.S. hands off Venezuela!"

Hart, who is a warehouse worker in Philadelphia, is joined on the Socialist Workers Party ticket by Tony Lane, a Pittsburgh-area coal miner, who is the party's candidate for lieutenant governor; Ved Dookhun, a Pittsburgh-area foundry worker, for U.S. Senate; and Cindy Jaquith, an electronics factory assembler, for U.S. Congress in the Pittsburgh-area 14th Congressional District.

John Staggs, the SWP candidate for State House District 198 in Philadelphia, has announced he will not sign the "loyalty oath" the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania requires candidates to swear to. "It is flagrantly unconstitutional," said Staggs, a packinghouse worker, in announcing his campaign. "And we're determined to ensure that anyone who chooses to pull the lever for the SWP candidate in November will be able to do so."

Supporters of the Socialist Workers 2006 campaign will be on the streets July 22–30 to gather more than 1,000 signatures to put Staggs on the ballot in the north Philadelphia district, more than twice the requirement.

The socialist workers are taking their campaign throughout the state, from the Hazleton area, where workers are fighting against anti-immigrant measures proposed by Mayor Louis Barletta (see "Mayor in Pennsylvania city promotes anti-immigrant measures" in last week's issue), to the coalfields in the western region of the state, where miners and other working people are discussing ways to fight effectively to ensure that no one has to die on the job.

On July 12, Hart and other SWP campaign supporters joined a candlelight vigil in Hazleton called by the Hazleton Area Latino Taskforce, a group organized to fight to defeat the anti-immigrant ordinance proposed by the mayor. Hart and other socialist campaigners have been in Hazleton a number of times in the last three weeks to advance the fight against the ordinance.

Dookhun and Lane have recently visited the Light of Age mosque in Pittsburgh to express their opposition to the June 30 raid conducted by FBI agents during prayer services (see photo story on page 5). Members of the largely African-American congregation were detained and interrogated on the street while the FBI searched the facility and blocked off surrounding streets for several hours, Lane said.

Hart, Staggs, and other socialist candidates from Pennsylvania and around the country will speak at a public meeting at the Philadelphia campaign headquarters at 188 W. Wyoming Street, at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 23.

"Many people we talk to are surprised and appalled to find out that Pennsylvania officials require a 'loyalty oath,'" Staggs said. "Today, when the government is stepping up attacks on our political rights—from FBI raids in Miami, to attacks on immigrant rights in Hazleton, to the illegal detention of prisoners who have never been charged in Guantánamo Bay, Cuba—the state's insistence on keeping a "loyalty oath" on the books shows they intend to use it against workers who organize to respond to the attacks by the employers and the government."

In the 2005 Pittsburgh mayoral election, Socialist Workers candidate Jay Ressler challenged the loyalty oath, refusing to sign it when he filed nominating petitions. The relevant section of a state affidavit requires a candidate for public office here to "swear…that I am not a subversive person as defined in the 'Pennsylvania Loyalty Act.'"

Allegheny County election officials certified Ressler for the ballot in July 2005. At the time, Brian McDonald, a spokesperson for the Pennsylvania Department of State in Harrisburg, refused to say whether this precedent covered statewide elections. "We'll cross that bridge when we come to it," he told the *Militant*. (See "Pittsburgh: Socialists score victory for political rights" in Aug. 1, 2005, *Militant*.)

"Well, we are crossing that bridge today," Staggs said.

"We aim to defend the right of all workers to use whatever arena they can to fight, from the picket line to the ballot box. The Socialist Workers campaign is presenting a working-class alternative to the Democrats, Republicans, and other capitalist parties," Staggs said. "Working people must rely on our collective power and solidarity and organize independently of the capitalists and their parties to advance the common interests of workers and farmers around the world. We need to build a revolutionary movement that will lead the fight to take power out of the hands of the ruling billionaire class, establish a workers and farmers government, and join the worldwide struggle for socialism."

U.S. gov't, allies refer Iran once again to UN Security Council for possible sanctions



Reuters/Raheb Homavandi

In a boost for the U.S.-led campaign to deny Iran control over its nuclear industry, representatives of all five permanent UN Security Council member states—the United States, Britain, France, China, and Russia— plus the government of Germany agreed July 12 to refer Iran to the UN body to order its government to stop enriching uranium, which is needed for the production of fuel for nuclear power plants, such as the one being built in Bushehr, Iran (above). Speaking for the six governments, French foreign minister Philippe Douste-Blazy said in Paris, "Should Iran refuse to comply then we will work for the adoption of measures under Article 41 of Chapter 7 of the UN charter," which authorizes economic sanctions. Tehran says it needs until August 22 before it can respond to an "offer" of economic incentives in exchange for giving up uranium enrichment.

—MICHAEL ITALIE

Socialist Workers launch ballot drive in N.Y.

Continued from front page

Luca for New York governor (for the rest of the ticket see adjacent list). Calero, 37, was the party's presidential candidate in 2004. DeLuca, 27, is a garment worker and member of the Young Socialists.

"I talked to a lot of young people who were interested in our campaign," said Marshall Lambie, 19, a college student who is using his summer off school to petition for the socialist candidates for the first time. "Many see the need to organize unions and use them to fight for broader social struggles like affirmative action and immigrant rights," he said.

Matilda Hernandez-Miyares, 17, is a high school student and another member of the Young Socialists who was out campaigning July 11 in Harlem. "A number of people walking by the campaign table saw our sign defending a woman's right to choose abortion and said, 'I am for that,' and signed," she said.

"There is also a good response to demands for government-guaranteed nationalized health care and no cuts to Social Security," said Carmen Maymi-O'Reilly, another campaign supporter. She petitioned July 11 at the bustling intersection of Fordham Road and Grand Concourse in the Bronx. "Many people see these two demands as a real need for all working people today."

Socialist campaigners are also petitioning to put the SWP ticket on the ballot in Minnesota, where they have collected nearly 3,000 signatures in a week toward their goal of 4,600. Similar ballot drives will take place in Massachusetts, July 15–30; Pennsylvania, July 22–30; and Iowa July 29–August 13.

Socialist Workers Party candidates in 2006

Florida	Bernie Senter, U.S. Senate Omari Musa, Governor Margaret Trowe, U.S. Congr., 18th CD Eric Simpson, U.S. Congr., 17th CD Ruth Robinett, Fl. State Rep. D. 109
Iowa	Diana Newberry, Governor Kevin Dwire, Lt. Governor Frank Forrestal, Sec'y of Agriculture Helen Meyers, U.S. Congr., 3rd CD
Massachusetts	John Hawkins, Governor Ross Hogan, Lt. Governor Laura Garza, U.S. Congr., 8th CD
Minnesota	Rebecca Williamson, U.S. Senate Brian Taylor, Governor Nelson Gonzalez, Lt. Governor Tom Fiske, U.S. Congr., 4th CD Julian Santana, U.S. Congr., 5th CD
New Jersey	Angela Lariscy, U.S. Senate* Brian Williams, U.S. Congr., 13th CD*
New York	Róger Calero, U.S. Senate Maura DeLuca, Governor Ben O'Shaughnessy, Lt. Governor Martín Koppel, Attorney General Willie Cotton, State Comptroller Nancy Boyasko, U.S. Congr., 11th CD
Pennsylvania	Ved Dookhun, U.S. Senate Osborne Hart, Governor Tony Lane, Lt. Governor Cindy Jaquith, U.S. Congr., 14th CD John Staggs, Pa. State Rep. D. 198
Texas	Amanda Ulman, U.S. Senate José Aravena, Governor Anthony Dutrow, U.S. Congr., 18th CD
Washington	David Rosenfeld, U.S. Senate Connie Allen, U.S. Congr., 7th CD
Wash., D.C.	Sam Manuel, Mayor Seth Dellinger, City Council At-Large Janice Lynn, House Delegate

*Confirmed on ballot

Help 'Militant' get second digital camera

Soon after this issue comes off the press, *Militant* reporters will be headed to Cuba to cover political developments in that country. Simultaneously, editorial volunteer Arrin Hawkins will travel to Mississippi to cover the mobilizations by supporters of women's right to choose abortion in defense of the state's sole abortion clinic in Jackson. This is one of many recent occasions where overlapping reporting trips necessitate more than one camera to take photos that can be sent to the paper electronically in the heat of struggle. As of this week, the *Militant* had only one digital camera. Please help us pay for a second, which costs $2,500. Send your contribution to the *Militant* at 306 W. 37th St., 10th floor, New York, NY 10018, and earmark your donation "camera fund."

Politics, economics, and building socialism in Cuba

Below is an excerpt from Che Guevara: Economics and Politics in the Transition to Socialism. *Pathfinder's Spanish-language edition is one of the publisher's Books of the Month in July. Quoting extensively from Guevara's writings and speeches on building socialism, Cuban economist Carlos Tablada presents the interrelationship of the market, economic planning, material incentives, and voluntary work; and why profit and other capitalist categories cannot be*

BOOKS OF THE MONTH

yardsticks for measuring progress in the transition to socialism. Copyright © 1997 by Pathfinder Press. Reprinted by permission.

BY CARLOS TABLADA

As a revolutionary economist, Che never lost sight of the fact that, under socialism, what is economically rational could not in itself serve as the barometer of what is socially rational. The formation of a new type of human relations would have to be the central objective of every effort; other factors would be positive or negative to the degree they helped accelerate or retard that process.



Ernesto Che Guevara visits factory in Pinar del Río province, Cuba, 1962. "Communism is a phenomenon of consciousness and not solely of production," Guevara wrote.

Otherwise, a grave risk would be run that the need to overcome the poverty accumulated over centuries would lead the revolutionary vanguard to view success in production as the sole central goal, losing sight of the reason for making the revolution in the first place. Seeking purely economic gains could lead to the application of methods that, while producing economic successes in the short run, could mortgage the revolutionary future through gradual erosion of the process of raising consciousness. No one described this phenomenon better than Che:

"A complete education for social labor has not yet taken place in these countries, and wealth is far from being within the reach of the masses through the simple process of appropriation. Underdevelopment, on the one hand, and the usual flight of capital to the 'civilized' countries, on the other, make a rapid transition without sacrifices impossible. There remains a long way to go in constructing the economic base, and the temptation is very great to follow the beaten track of material interest as the lever with which to accelerate development.

"There is the danger that the forest will not be seen for the trees. The pipe dream that socialism can be achieved with the help of the dull instruments left to us by capitalism (the commodity as the economic cell, profitability, individual material interest as a lever, etc.) can lead into a blind alley. And you wind up there after having traveled a long distance with many crossroads, and it is hard to figure out just where you took the wrong turn. Meanwhile, the economic foundation that has been laid has done its work of undermining the development of consciousness. To build communism it is necessary, simultaneous with the new material foundations, to build the new man."

And once again, he made the same point:

"It is not a matter of how many kilograms of meat one has to eat, nor of how many times a year someone can go to the beach, nor how many pretty things from abroad you might be able to buy with present-day wages. It is a matter of making the individual feel more complete, with much more internal richness and much more responsibility."

Thus for Che economic rationality meant the best possible use of resources so as to enhance the multifaceted development of both society and communist education.

That does not mean that building communism can be compatible with economic bankruptcy. The point is that the efficiency of administrative management under socialism cannot be measured *exclusively* by the total amount of values created.

It must also be gauged by the degree to which the economic structures help bring closer the new society, through the transformation of men. It must be gauged by how well man is developed socially in a communist direction, precisely on the basis of the new economic structures.

In building communism the relative weight of economic achievements, on the one hand, and achievements in raising consciousness, on the other, was clearly established by Che:

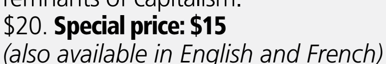
"Socialism is not a welfare society, nor is it a utopian society based on the goodness of man as man. Socialism is a system that arises historically, and that has as its pillar the socialization of the basic means of production along with equitable distribution of all of society's wealth, in a framework of social production.

"In our view *communism is a phenomenon of consciousness and not solely a phenomenon of production.* We cannot arrive at communism through the simple mechanical accumulation of quantities of goods made available to the people. By doing that we would get somewhere, to be sure, to some peculiar form of socialism."



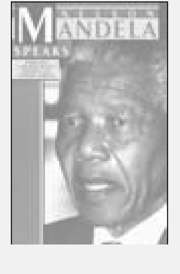
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EDITORIAL

Back Socialist Workers campaigns!

Support the Socialist Workers Party candidates and the platform (see page 6) they are campaigning for: a working-class alternative to Democrats, Republicans, and other capitalist parties! SWP tickets are being announced across the U.S. You can help to get the working-class voice in the elections heard as widely as possible.

Many working people are seeking a way to resist the employers' offensive to cut wages, speed up production, make health coverage more expensive and limited, and gut pensions. The results can be measured in the lives sacrificed to the altar of bosses' profits, including 33 coal miners killed so far this year. And more than 5,700 workers were killed from job-related injuries in 2004 alone, according to the most recently published federal data.

The bosses' foreign policy is an extension of their anti-working-class drive at home. Under the banner of the "global war on terror," the U.S. government, acting on behalf of the ruling billionaire class through its twin parties, is using military might to try to gain more control over the world's markets and natural resources and edge out its imperialist competitors. That's what's behind the reactionary U.S.-led campaign against Iran and north Korea. And it goes hand-in-hand with Washington's use of protectionist measures under the slogan of "free trade," which, along with the imperialist-imposed foreign debt squeeze, devastates many semicolonial nations.

The socialist campaigners take part in protests to demand that all U.S. and other occupation troops be pulled out of Iraq and Afghanistan now. They are joining other supporters of a woman's right to choose abortion mobilizing in Jackson, Mississippi, to defend a women's clinic targeted by rightist forces.

SWP candidates are speaking out against recent FBI "antiterror" raids in Miami and in Pittsburgh. These attacks on constitutional rights are aimed at gaining legitimacy for future "homeland defense" operations against unionists and other working people resisting the capitalist offensive. In Philadelphia, the SWP candidate for the state legislature, John Staggs, has announced that he will not sign the "anti-subversive" pledge demanded of candidates by Pennsylvania state authorities.

During these struggles, socialists explain that working people need to organize independently of the capitalists and their parties—Republicans, Democrats, Greens, and the like. This requires building a movement by millions to take power out of the hands of the capitalist rulers, establish a workers and farmers government, and join the worldwide struggle for socialism. The living example of the Cuban Revolution shows this road is possible and necessary in the United States and worldwide.

If you support this perspective, the SWP campaign is *your* campaign. Join the petitioning drives to put the socialists on the ballot in Iowa, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York, and Pennsylvania. Invite socialist candidates to speak to your union, school, or other organization. Contribute to the campaign.

Chicago: march for immigrant rights called July 19

BY ERNEST MAILHOT

CHICAGO, July 11—A march to protest recent immigration raids and deportations and to demand legalization for immigrants has been called here for July 19.

Centro Sin Fronteras and radio host Rafael Pulido, who is known as *El Pistolero,* are coordinating the action. The Centro has been in the forefront of organizing protests for immigrant rights here. Pulido's radio show played an important role in building the first major immigrant rights march nationwide this year, which drew 300,000 people in downtown Chicago on March 10.

The March 10 Committee, which organized the huge mobilizations for immigrant rights in Chicago on March 10 and May 1, has endorsed the July 19 action.

"We called the march to send a message to the government that the raids, deportations, and separation of families must stop," said Elvira Arrellano, a campaigner for immigrant rights here who is herself fighting government efforts to deport her. "The rules put on employers, including using no-match [Social Security] letters against workers, need to be dropped so they don't start firing workers. We're demanding legalization."

Protesters will assemble in the morning at Union Park, at Ashland Ave. and Lake St., organizers said. They will march to Federal Plaza at 230 S. Dearborn St. in downtown Chicago, where a rally will be held at 1:00 p.m.

London sends more troops to Afghanistan

Continued from front page

began pushing into the remote mountainous region. The reinforcements will increase the British troops in Afghanistan to 4,500. The previous day London added 200 Special Forces troops for an operation against Taliban strongholds, according to the July 9 *Sunday Times.*

Meanwhile, U.S. defense secretary Donald Rumsfeld arrived July 11 in Afghanistan. At a press conference in Kabul with Afghan president Hamid Karzai, he insisted that Washington, with 23,000 troops in Afghanistan, will remain part of the NATO-led force that is to take command in the U.S.-controlled south in coming weeks.

Since June, British forces have participated in the U.S.-led Operation Mountain Thrust, billed by its U.S. commanders as the biggest offensive against the Taliban since they were driven out of Kabul in 2001. In recent weeks British paratroopers have been engaging in "almost daily firefights" in the north of Helmand, the *Financial Times* reported.

The additional deployment follows the deaths of six British soldiers stationed in Afghanistan in the last month. It is supported in the House of Commons by the Conservative and Labour parties.

Speaking on July 4, Conservative defense spokesman Liam Fox said there was an "unease of British commanders in Afghanistan, regarding their ability to carry out the mission." James Arbuthnot, the Conservative chairman of the defense committee, said the troops are deployed "on a shoestring" and protested Treasury attempts to limit funds for Harrier jets used to back ground forces.

Within the next two months, troops from Canada, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom are to be formally incorporated into the NATO command in Afghanistan, swelling its forces there to about 17,000.

Since May, the UK-led Rapid Reaction Corps has taken command of the NATO forces in Afghanistan.

LETTERS

High school walkout

Two hundred students at Science High School, about a third of the student body, walked out June 8 to protest conditions at the school in downtown Newark, New Jersey.

The school has been housed at an old beer factory for 23 years and the building has a variety of problems. These include inadequate lighting, no hot water, broken banisters where students get splinters, and no central heating or air. "The freshman locker room floods every time it rains and they haven't done anything about it," said Xavier Lobo, a student at Science High. Freshmen can't get to their lockers during such times. The school also doesn't have a gymnasium. That fact became an issue the week before the walkout when a female student was sexually assaulted at the YMWCA, where the school currently holds physical education classes. This incident may have precipitated the protest.

The administration has refused to address these problems, claiming it is waiting to relocate the students to a new building under construction. Completion of that building, however, has been postponed many times.

Eddie "Santi" Beck
Newark, New Jersey

The letters column is an open forum for all viewpoints on subjects of interest to working people. Please keep your letters brief. Where necessary they will be abridged. Please indicate if you prefer that your initials be used rather than your full name.

Threats to Korea

Continued from front page

ogy, began a trip to several capital cities July 7 to gain support for the resolution. The talks involve the governments of the United States, Japan, China, Russia, south Korea, and the DPRK.

The UN Security Council agreed to postpone briefly a July 10 vote on the resolution in light of an ongoing visit to north Korea by a high-level Chinese delegation to try to get the six-party talks going again. Pyongyang says it will resume the talks once Washington lifts its economic sanctions against it.

Beijing and Moscow, two of five permanent members of the Security Council, oppose the UN resolution. Each permanent member of the council has veto power.

The draft resolution condemns north Korea's missile testing; calls on Pyongyang to "immediately cease the development, testing, deployment and proliferation of ballistic missiles"; and demands it restore a moratorium on missile launches.

The resolution also calls for preventing the "transfer of financial resources, items, materials, goods and technology that could contribute to DPRK's missile and other WMD [weapons of mass destruction] programs."

Last September the U.S. government accused a bank in Macau, Banco Delta Asia, of counterfeiting and other illicit financial activities on behalf of the DPRK. The following month eight north Korean firms were "blacklisted" by the U.S. Treasury Department.

A DPRK foreign ministry spokesperson called the missile test an "exercise of its legitimate right as a sovereign state," reported the Korean Central News Agency in Pyongyang. He said the long-range missile test-fire moratorium, agreed to with the Clinton administration, was no longer valid because of the Bush administration's policy against direct talks with Pyongyang. "We would like to ask the U.S. and Japan if they had ever notified the DPRK of their ceaseless launches," he added.

Kim Hyong Jun, north Korea's vice minister for foreign affairs, told the press during a visit to South Africa that "the U.S. has announced that it will embark on a month-long military exercise in the Korean peninsula from the 25th of this month to the end of July. This is a serious threat to the sovereignty of a country."

Washington presses campaign

U.S. president George Bush called south Korean president Roh Moo-hyun and Japanese prime minister Junichiro Koizumi to thank them for their sharp statements condemning Pyongyang's missile testing, which the White House labeled "provocative behavior."

"We shouldn't have business as usual with a country that's been firing off missiles like this in this rather reckless way," said U.S. envoy Hill after arriving in Seoul. Hill made stops in Seoul, Tokyo, Moscow, and Beijing.

Koizumi said that, pending the Chinese diplomatic visit to Pyongyang, his government would continue to seek an early vote on its resolution.

Japan's chief cabinet secretary, Shinzo Abe, said Tokyo should consider a "preemptive" strike against missile sites in the DPRK, according to a July 10 Associated Press dispatch. Abe, expected to replace Koizumi at the end of the prime minister's term in September, has campaigned to change Japan's constitution, which was imposed by the U.S. occupation following World War II. It prohibits Tokyo from developing offensive military capabilities.

Abe's remarks follow a similar statement by the head of Japan's defense agency, Fukushiro Nukaga, that Tokyo should consider a military strike "if an enemy country definitely has a way of attacking Japan and has its finger on the trigger."

The government in south Korea has responded sharply against the move to impose sanctions against the DPRK. "There is no reason to fuss over this from the break of dawn like Japan, but every reason to do the opposite," said a statement from President Roh Moo-hyun's office.

South Korean presidential spokesman Jung Tae-ho accused Tokyo of "arrogance and outrageous rhetoric that further intensifies the crisis on the Korean Peninsula." Jung said Tokyo was using the missile tests as "a pretext for becoming a military power," a reference to Japanese imperialism's brutal occupation of much of Asia, including Korea, in the 1930s and 1940s.